

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to make editorial changes including those noted in the Official Action to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

A replacement Abstract of the Disclosure is provided on an accompanying separate sheet.

Claims 1-19 were previously pending in the application. New claim 20 is added. Therefore, claims 1-20 are presented for consideration. Claims 1-19 are amended to address the 35 USC §112, second paragraph rejections noted in the Official Action.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter in claims 4 and 13-18.

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 9, and 19 are rejected as anticipated by Porte et al. 6,268,038 and claims 10-12 are rejected as unpatentable over PORTE et al.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested because the reference does not disclose or suggest wherein edges of the parallel strips of the porous acoustic damping layer are disposed facing a strip laid down by striping or draping and containing a thermoplastic, thermohardening or thermofusible material to ensure the securement of the edges of the parallel strips with an adjacent strip containing a thermoplastic, thermohardening or

thermofusible material, as recited in claim 1 of the present application.

By way of example, Figures 4 and 5 of the present application show a plurality of strips 13 parallel to each other so that an edge 15 of one of the plural parallel strips is adjacent an edge of another one of the plural parallel strips so that the plural strips 13 form the porous layer 10. A plurality of strips 16 containing a thermoplastic, thermohardening or thermofusible material are disposed so that the parallel strips 13 face the strips 16 to ensure the securement of the edges of the parallel strips 13 with an adjacent strip 16.

Figure 5B of PORTE et al. show a plurality of filaments 16 covering a damping cloth 12. Figure 6A of PORTE et al. shows that damping cloth 12 may be deposited in strips, thus forming a first layer of strips. However, filaments 16 are a reinforcing layer that is wound onto layer 12 by a winding process including a bobbin as seen in Figure 5B that allows the desired pitch and angles to be varied according to the placement so as to increase or decrease the density of the filaments as seen in Figures 3 and 4 of PORTE et al. However, the filaments of PORTE et al. are not emplaced such that edges of the damping cloth are disposed facing the filaments 16 to ensure the securement of the edges of the parallel strips with an adjacent strip containing a

thermoplastic, thermohardening or thermofusible material as recited in claim 1 of the present application.

By way of further explanation, an object of the present invention is to protect the edges of the acoustic strip by placing filaments over the edges to prevent the edge from peeling, as disclosed on page 17, lines 15-22 of the present application.

PORTE et al. corresponds to French Patent 2,767,411, disclosed on page 3, line 20, to page 5, line 3 of the present application. A drawback of the panel according to PORTE et al. is disclosed on page 4, lines 13-23 of the present application which states that since the porous layer is in direct contact with the aerodynamic fluid in the fan channel, the strips of cloth are easily peeled back at their edge that are in contact with the aerodynamic flow since they are disposed substantially perpendicular to the direction of flow.

By placing the strip 16 containing a thermoplastic, thermohardening or thermofusible material over the edges 15 as seen in Figure 5 of the present application, this drawback is overcome. Specifically, when the edges 15 of the parallel strips of the porous acoustic damping layer are disposed facing the strips 16, the edges of the parallel strips 13 are secured with an adjacent strip containing a thermoplastic, thermohardening or thermofusible material, as recited in claim 1 of the present

application, the drawback is overcome. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection as to PORTE et al. is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 9-12 and 19 depend from claim 1 and further define the invention and are also believed patentable over the cited prior art.

In addition, claim 6 recites that windings of the filaments are separated from each other and only facing and overlapping intervals between the parallel strips of the porous layer. Claim 7 recites that the filaments are first emplaced by striping on the mold and the parallel strips of the porous layer are subsequently emplaced by striping. As seen in Figures 6 and 7 of the present application, filaments 16 are exposed to the flow of aerodynamic fluid 7. Claim 8 provides that the filaments are disposed on opposite sides of the porous layer. Figures 8 and 9 of the present application show the filament 16 on both sides of the porous layer 10. None of these features are disclosed in the reference and thus these claims are believed patentable regardless of the patentability of the claims from which they depend.

New claim 20 recites the step of emplacing a plurality of second strips facing and parallel to a plurality of first strips so that one of the plural second strips overlaps an adjacent two of the plural first strips and covers respective

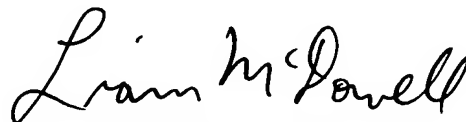
edges of the adjacent two of the plural first strips. The comments above regarding claim 1 are equally applicable to claim 20. Accordingly, it is believed that the new claim avoids the rejection under §102 and is allowable over the art of record.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



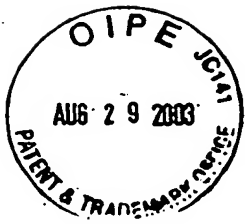
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APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following item(s):

- an amended Abstract of the Disclosure



DESCRIPTIVE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[The object of the invention is a] A process for the production of a panel with a protective acoustic damping layer, ~~comprising.~~ The protective layer includes at least one porous core covered, on the one side, with a porous acoustic damping layer [[(10)]] and on the other side with ~~a total~~ an acoustic reflector, ~~in which at least one said.~~ The porous damping layer [[(10)]] is emplaced by striping or draping, ~~said.~~ The porous damping layer [[(10)]] ~~being constituted~~ consists of parallel strips. ~~(13), characterized in that the edges (15)~~ Edges of the strips [[(13)]] of the porous damping layer [[(10)]] are positioned facing a strip [[(16)]] deposited by striping or draping and containing a thermoplastic, thermosetting or thermofusible material adapted, by subsequent heating, to ensure the securement of the edges of said strips of the porous damping layer [[(13)]] with the adjacent strip [[(16)]] of thermoplastic, thermosetting or thermofusible material.

~~— Use particularly for the nacelles of turbo motors of aircraft.~~

~~FIGURE 5~~

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